BLACKROD, DAISY HILL, WESTHOUGHTON & WINGATES TEAM

**Ascension Day**



The East Window: The Ascension of Jesus, St John’s Wingates.

This beautiful window has Jesus at the centre with angels and cherubs around him as he ascends into the heaven. Beneath the feet of Jesus is the serpent to show he has overcome evil. The rainbow sweeping behind his shoulders reminds us of God’s covenant or promise. The lower part of the window shows Mary and the eleven disciples watching in wonder.

The window was given by John Pilkington, a local mill owner and benefactor of the church.

 **Preparation**

O Lord, open our lips

**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Your throne has been established from of old;

**you are from everlasting. Alleluia.**

**A Song of the King’s Glory**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the darkness of death you have raised your Christ

to the right hand of your majesty on high.

The pioneer of our faith, his passion accomplished,

has opened for us the way to heaven

and sends on us the promised Spirit.

May we be ready to follow the Way

and so be brought to the glory of his presence

where songs of triumph for ever sound:

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

**Opening Prayer**

Almighty God,

your Son has opened for us

a new and living way into your presence.

Give us new hearts and constant wills

to worship you in spirit and in truth;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**The Word of God**

Psalm 150

**Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Canticle: A Song of Christ’s Appearing**

**Christ was believed in throughout the world**

**and taken up in glory.**

Christ Jesus was revealed in the flesh

and vindicated in the spirit.

He was seen by angels

and proclaimed among the nations.

Believed in throughout the world,

he was taken up in glory.

This will be made manifest at the proper time

by the blessed and only Sovereign,

Who alone has immortality,

and dwells in unapproachable light.

**To the King of kings and Lord of lords**

**be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.** *1 Timothy 3.16; 6.15,16*

**Christ was believed in throughout the world**

**and taken up in glory.**

**Scripture Reading**

Acts 1: 1-11

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Prayers**

*Intercessions are offered*

**The Collect of the day**

Risen Christ,

you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven:

help us to seek and serve you,

that we may join you at the Father’s side,

where you reign with the Spirit in glory,

now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Looking for the coming of his kingdom,

as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours**

**now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Conclusion**

May Christ, who has opened the kingdom of heaven,

bring us to reign with him in glory. **Amen.**

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Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**